

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

UNCLAS STATE 168031

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EFIN, BDIS, DR

SUBJECT: FULLER COMPANY DIFFICULTIES WITH DOMINICAN TAX
AUTHORITIES

REFS: (A) STATE 222751 (1977), (B) SANTO DOMINGO 7355 (1977)

1. MCCORMICK AND SILVERSTEIN AGAIN CALLED ON DEPARTMENT TO SEEK USG ASSISTANCE IN DIFFICULTIES, WITH WHICH EMBASSY IS FAMILIAR, FULLER IS HAVING WITH DOMINICAN TAX AUTHORITIES. THEY REPORTED THAT FIRM'S FILE AND REPORT BY DOMINICAN TAX DEPARTMENT IS NOW IN LEGAL OFFICE OF SECRETARIAT OF FINANCE. THEY ARE CONCERNED BACKLOG OF WORK IN THIS OFFICE MAY MEAN FURTHER DELAY, SINCE FOR THE MOMENT OFFICE HAS ONLY ONE LAWYER, DR. ISRAEL BELLO, WHO IS NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE CASE. FULLER'S ATTORNEY IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, WILLIAM C. HEADRICK, OF KIRKWOOD, KAPLAN, RUSSIN AND VECCHI, IS TRYING TO EXPEDITE SETTLEMENT OF CASE.

2. FULLER FEELS THAT RENEWED EXPRESSION BY EMBASSY OF
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USG CONCERN MAY ALSO HELP MOVEMENT OF CONSIDERATION. DEPARTMENT, THEREFORE, AGREED TO ASK EMBASSY WHETHER IT FEELS APPROPRIATE INQUIRES BY EMBASSY OFFICIALS AT THIS TIME WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO DISCUSS WITH HEADRICK THE TYPE OF EMBASSY ACTION WHICH WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. EMBASSY COULD REMIND DOMINICAN GOVERNMENT THAT IN PREVIOUS MEETINGS ATTENDED BY EMBASSY OFFICIALS

GODR PROMISED EXPEDITIOUS ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN. FULLER IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED THAT FAILURE TO MOVE CASE BEFORE AUGUST CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE EARLY SETTLEMENT UNLIKELY.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY VIEWS AND REPORT OF ANY INDICATIONS BY DOMINICAN GOVERNMENT OF ACTIONS IT WILL TAKE. FULLER REQUESTS THAT HEADRICK ALSO BE KEPT INFORMED. VANCE

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